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THE

NATURAL HISTORY

OF

BRITISH BIRDS;

OR, A

SELECTION OF THE MOST RARE, BEAUTIFUL, AND INTERESTING

BIRDS

WHICH INHABIT THIS COUNTRY:

THE DESCRIPTIONS FROM THE

SYSTEMA NATURÆ

OF

LINNÆUS:

WITH

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS,

EITHER ORIGINAL, OR COLLECTED FROM THE LATEST AND MOST ESTEEMED

ENGLISH ORNITHOLOGISTS:

AND EMBELLISHED WITH

FIGURES,

DRAWN, ENGRAVED, AND COLOURED FROM THE ORIGINAL SPECIMENS.

BY E. DONOVAN.

VOL. VIII.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR; AND FOR F. C. AND J. RIVINGTON, No. 62, ST. PAUL'S CHURCH-YARD. 1817.

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PLATE CLXXIII.

TRINGA ISLANDICA.

RED SANDPIPER.

GRALLÆ.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill roundiſh, as long as the head: noſtrils ſmall, linear: tongue ſlender: feet four-toed: the hind-toe of one joint, and raiſed from the ground.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER

AND

SYNONYMS.

Bill and legs fuſcous: back variegated with fuſcous, rufous, and black: body beneath ferruginous: ſecondary quill-feathers edged with white.

TRINGA ISLANDICA: roſtro pedibuſque fuſcis, dorſo fuſco rufo nigroque variegato: corpore ſubtus ferrugineo remigibus ſecundariis margine albis.

TRINGA ISLANDICA: roſtro pedibusque fuſcis, corpore ſubtus ferrugineo remigibus ſecundariis margine albis. *Gmel.* 682. 24.

PLATE CLXXIII.

TRINGA FERRUGINEA. *Brünn. Orn. n.* 180.
RED SANDPIPER. *Brit. Zool.* 2. *n.* 202. *b.* 72.
ABERDEEN SANDPIPER. *Brit. Zool.* 2. *n.* 203.—*Lath. Gen. Syn.* 3. *I. p.* 186. *n.* 84.

The ſpecimen of the Red Sandpiper, originally depoſited in the Leverian Muſeum, and thence deſcribed by Engliſh authors, has been in our poſſeſſion from the period in which that Muſeum was diſperſed; and as our own Muſeum was allowed to remain open to public view for ſome years ſince that time, the appearance of this bird may be perhaps familiar to many of our readers, for it can ſcarcely be imagined that any viſitor would have neglected to beſtow ſome attention towards this elegant and truly intereſting ſpecies.

As a Britiſh Bird, the Red Sandpiper was always, we believe, conſidered rare. It is indeed recorded to have appeared occaſionally, and even flocks of them have been obſerved; but from peculiar circumſtances few of theſe had been procured, and it remained a rarity till the ſpring of 1812 afforded this curious bird in ſome plenty. A flock of them, as we underſtand, was ſeen at that time in the fens, and ſeveral of theſe being captured in the fowling-nets, they paſſed very fortunately from the wild-fowl dealers of the London market into the hands of Mr. Corbet, an ingenious preſerver of birds, by whom they were prepared for the cabinet, and who has ſince furniſhed ſeveral of the principal collections with the ſpecimens they poſſeſs.

One

One of theſe laſt-mentioned birds is now in our own poſſeſſion: it differs in no material particular from the original bird, which is at preſent before us, and with which we have compared it with due attention; the only diſſimilarity conſiſts in the general hue of the upper parts of the plumage, in the more recent ſubject being ſomewhat darker, and the lower more deeply rufo-ferruginous.

Notwithſtanding the apparent ſcarcity of this kind of Sandpiper, it ſhould be remarked however, that there is ſome reaſonable grounds for believing, that it is only rare to us in this more lively ſtate of plumage; that in its ordinary dreſs we ſhould recognize it to be no other than the Tringa Canutus, the bird familiarly known to our poulterers by the name of the Knot-bird. This idea was firſt ſuggeſted by the appearance of one of the Knot-birds, which we met with ſome years ago among a parcel of the common kind in Leadenhall market. The whole of the lower ſurface had aſſumed a richly varied intermixture of brown with the white feathers, and duſky creſcent-like marks of the neck, breaſt, and ſides of the abdomen; and beſides this ſpecimen, there was another, the breaſt of which had began to aſſume the ſame ruddy aſpect. The correſpondence in this reſpect was ſtriking; but there was nothing in the upper ſurface of the plumage to diſtinguiſh it from the common Knot; unlike the true Icelandic Sandpiper, it was entirely deſtitute of that elegant intermixture of black and oblong ſpots of ruſt colour, which appears conſpicuous in the example we have repreſented, and which Linnæus conſiders characteriſtic of the Iceland ſpecies.

Theſe laſt-mentioned birds were placed in the ſpring of 1812, with other varieties of the Knot-bird, in our Muſeum, in a ſituation immediately contiguous to the original ſpecimen of the Red Sandpiper, in

order that every obſerver might be enabled to form his own judgment as to the relative connection of the two birds, and it is, we may be allowed to conceive, from the publicity thus afforded them, that an opinion has ariſen of the Common Knot and the Iceland Sandpiper, being only the winter and ſummer dreſs of the ſame bird.

In a future plate we ſhall ſubmit a portrait of the rufous bellied Knot, above deſcribed, to the attention of our readers; together with ſuch information as we may conceive likely to elucidate the obſcurity that ſeems to prevail reſpecting them.

Length of the original ſpecimen of the Red Sandpiper eleven inches; of the one recently captured about ten inches.

PLATE CLXXIV.

LARUS MARINUS γ.

WAGEL GULL.

ANSERES.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill ſtraight, ſharp edged, a little falcated at the tip, and toothleſs: lower mandible gibbous below the point: noſtrils linear, broader on the fore part, and placed in the middle of the bill.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER

AND

SYNONYMS.

Varied brown, aſh and white with brown ſpots: band of black on the tail, tip white.

LARUS MARINUS γ. *Lath. Ind. Orn.* 814. 6.

LARUS NAEVIUS: albus, dorſo cinereo, rectricibus apice nigris. *Gmel. Linn. Syſt.* 598. 5.

LARUS VARIUS. *Brünn. Orn. n.* 150.

LARUS MACULATUS. *Brünn.* N° 146. *young bird?*

Le Goiland varié, ou le Griſard. *Briſs. Orn.* 6. *p.* 167. 5. *pl.* 15.—*Buff. Oiſ.* 8. *p.* 413. *pl.* 33.—*Pl. Enl.* 266.

Wagel, Burgo-maſter of Groeland, Great Grey Gull, *Raii Syn. p.* 130. *A.* 13.—*Will. Orn. p.* 349. *pl.* 66.

Wagel. *Br. Zool.* 2. *n.* 247. *A.*—*Arct. Zool.* N° 453.

To

PLATE CLXXIV.

To reconcile the various opinions that have prevailed among naturaliſts reſpecting the identity of ſome ſpecies of the Gull tribe would be a taſk of more than ordinary difficulty: the tranſitions of their plumage, reſulting from the effects of climate, the ſeaſons of the year, the difference of ſex, and the various periods of their growth, preclude the poſſibility of ſpeaking with any poſitive degree of preciſion in ſome inſtances, and in no one more it would appear upon the teſtimony of the beſt writers, than in the identity of the ſpecies before us.

Among the firſt of theſe opinions we may mention that of Linnæus, who conſidered it as the Herring Gull in the firſt year's plumage. Fabricius, the author of *Fauna Groenlandica*, on the contrary conceived it to be the young of the Black-backed Gull, and Pennant concludes that it is not an immature bird, but the female of the Black-backed Gull.

It would have tended much to conſolidate the two firſt of theſe opinions had the concluſions offered by Dr. Latham in his general Synopſis, been eſtabliſhed by later obſervation; namely, that the Herring Gull and the Black-backed Gull are of the ſame ſpecies; but the contrary of this opinion has been ſo clearly aſcertained, that in a ſubſequent production, *(Index Orn.)* Dr. Latham himſelf abandons that idea, and admits the Herring Gull and Black-backed Gull to be ſpecifically diſtinct.—This is our own opinion: we have the two ſexes of both ſpecies in very perfect order of maturity in our own Muſeum, and from a due compariſon of theſe, we cannot entertain the leaſt diſtruſt of the accuracy of this laſt concluſion. In ſtating this, the reader will perceive that the idea of the Wagel being the female of the Black-backed Gull, as Mr. Pennant imagines, is not admiſſible, the female of that ſpecies being altogether diſſimilar.

But

PLATE CLXXIV.

But although Dr. Latham divides the Black-backed Gull from the Herring Gull in his Index Ornithologicus, he does not ſeparate the Wagel from the firſt-mentioned ſpecies, but places it as a variety, or rather as the young of that bird Larus Marinus γ. This arrangement is, we believe, founded on actual obſervation of the ſpecies in the various ſtages of its growth, or we might be inclined, from the general appearance of the bird, to follow, in preference, the example of Gmelin, who eſtabliſhes the Wagel as a diſtinct ſpecies, ſubject to ſome variations, under the ſpecific name of Naevius. The Wagel is a large bird meaſuring, in length, two or three feet, and exceeding, when full grown, the ordinary ſize of the Black-backed Gull; it is alſo conſiderably larger than the Herring Gull which, in point of ſize, is inferior to the Black-backed Gull *.

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* Mr. Montagu, in his Ornithological Dictionary, remarks, that "the appellation (Wagel Gull) has been aſſigned to ſeveral ſpecies of the genus in the mottled infant plumage; and as there is no ſuch bird claiming ſpecific diſtinction, it ſhould be eraſed as ſuch from the pages of Ornithology." *Suppl.* This aſſurance deſerves conſideration; for if it be correct it muſt prove the fallacy of all diſcuſſion upon the ſubject, as the Wagel will be identified in the young of ſeveral ſpecies of the Gull tribe, which in their perfect ſtate are acknowledged to be ſpecifically diſtinct. But we cannot yield entirely to an obſervation which, in our opinion, teſtifies a precipitancy of concluſion beyond even what the author himſelf intended, for he conſiders in another place the Wagel as the young of the Black-backed Gull alone. That the young of all the Gull tribe have the plumage mottled in the early periods of their growth, is a fact ſufficiently known, but every individual poſſeſſes yet ſome ſtriking peculiarity of the adult bird, by which the judgment of the ſkilful Ornithologiſt may be directed, and we think ſucceſsfully, to the determination of the ſpecies; and in proof of this, we cannot doubt that the true Wagel may always be diſtinguiſhed from the reſt of the Gull tribe in their mottled ſtate of plumage.

With reſpect to the Wagel when full grown, its ordinary ſize is known to exceed that of the Black-backed Gull, a circumſtance that does not ariſe from the greater laxity of the feathers as might be imagined in admitting it to be the younger bird; but from the bird itſelf being actually larger than the Black-backed Gull at the full maturity. This would tend, at leaſt in ſome degree, to prove that it might not be the "infant offſpring" of that bird, although there may be certain inſtances in ſome ſpecies of the young bird being larger than the adult.

Theſe

PLATE CLXXIV.

Theſe birds occur on the ſea ſhore and in the vicinities of great rivers in various parts of Britain, but it is ſaid not in any conſiderable plenty. In ſevere winters they have been known to viſit the banks of the Thames in company with others of the Gull tribe, and one ſhot near Richmond, about twenty years ago, by a well-informed ſportſman was tranſmitted to us as a rarity. Within a few years paſt they appear to have become more common about the banks of the Thames, and in that of 1812 in particular, when they occurred in ſome abundance. It may not be amiſs to add, that in the ſummer of the year 1801, we were favoured with a recent ſpecimen of the Wagel (ſhot in Cornwall) from the late Mr. Hutchins, a very intelligent Ornithologiſt, the plumage of which did not differ from that of the Wagels ſhot in winter, as before mentioned.

PLATE CLXXV.

HIRUNDO URBICA.

HOUSE MARTIN.

PASSERES.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill ſmall, weak, curved, ſubulate, and depreſſed at the baſe: gape larger than the head: tongue ſhort, broad cleft: wings long: tail generally forked.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER

AND

SYNONYMS.

Blue-black, beneath white: tail without ſpots.

HIRUNDO URBICA: nigro-coeruleſcens ſubtus alba, retricibus immaculatis. *Lath. Ind. Orn.* 573.

HIRUNDO URBICA: retricibus immaculatis, dorſo nigro-coeruleſcente, tota ſubtus alba. *Linn. Fn. Suec.* 271. —*Linn. Syſt. I. p.* 344. 3.—*Gmel. Syſt. I. p.* 1017.

Hirundo minor ſ. ruſtica. *Briſſ. av.* 2. *p.* 490. *n.* 2.

Hirundo ruſtica ſ. agreſtis Plinii. *Raj. av. p.* 71. *n.* 2.—*Will. Orn. p.* 155. *t.* 39.

PLATE CLXXV.

Hirondelle à cul blanc. *Buf.* 6. *p.* 614. *t.* 25. *f.* 2.
Le Petit Martinet. *Pl. Enl.* 542. *f.* 2.
MARTIN, MARTLET, or MARTINET. *Will. (Angl.) p.* 213. *t.* 39.—*Alb.* 2. *t.* 56. a.
Lath. Gen. Syn. 4. *p.* 564. 3.—*Id. Suppl. p.* 192.

The Houſe Martin differs from the Sand Martin, which we have already given in this Work, in ſome very ſtriking particulars. It is a larger bird, and unlike that ſpecies which forms its reſidence in the banks of ſand, in ſituations ſolitary and remote from the habitations of man; this little intruder, emboldened by familiarity, conſtructs its neſts, and breeds under the cornices and eaves of our houſes, againſt our windows, or amongſt the thatch, wherever a convenient reſting place is afforded; but not in chimnies like ſwallows. Their neſt is compoſed of mud and a few twigs or ſticks, and lined with feathers; and the eggs, which in the firſt laying are five in number, in the ſecond four, and in the third three, are of a white colour. There are two or more broods in the year.

This ſpecies is more abundant than the common Swallow, and though many build and breed here, the Houſe Martin performs an annual migration like that of the common Swallow, and nearly about the ſame time. They arrive in England about twenty days before the Swallow, and depart again in Autumn.

It is a ſmall bird, being only five inches and a half in length; the colour above blackiſh, very richly gloſſed with blue; the wings brown,

brown, and tail uniformly brown gloſſed with blue; the plumage beneath white, and the legs covered with a whitiſh down. A ſuppoſed variety that inhabits North America, has the quill and tail feathers tipped with white.

The Houſe Martin, like the reſt of its tribe, ſubſiſts on inſects, which it chiefly takes on the wing.

PLATE CLXXVI.

LARUS RIDIBUNDUS γ.

BROWN-HEADED GULL.

ANSERES.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill ſtraight, ſharp-edged, a little falcated at the tip and toothleſs, lower mandible gibbous below the point: noſtrils linear, broader on the fore part, and placed in the middle of the bill.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER

AND

SYNONYMS.

White, head blackiſh: bill and legs red.

LARUS RIDIBUNDUS. *Linn. Syſt. I. p.* 225. 9.

LARUS RIDIBUNDUS: albidus, capite nigricante, roſtro pedibuſque rubris. *Oedm. Nov. Act. Stockh.* 1783. 2. *n. I. p.* 119. *n.* 9.

LARUS RIDIBUNDUS γ: albidus, capite fuſco maculis albis, dorſo cano, rectricibus decem intermediis faſcia nigra. *Lath. Ind. Orn.* 812.

BROWN-HEADED GULL. *Lath. Syn.* 6. *p.* 383. 11.—*Albin.* 2. *pl.* 86.

BROWN-HEADED GULL. *Lev. Muſ.*

The

PLATE CLXXVI.

The length of this bird is ſixteen inches; the plumage white, with the head and neck mouſe colour: tail white, and compoſed of twelve feathers; the exterior one of which on each ſide is white and immaculate, the interior black at the tip, and the bill and legs red.

This is generally believed by Ornithologiſts to be the Black-headed Gull in its ſummer ſtate of plumage, the dark brown colour of the head and neck aſſuming a more intenſe or blacker hue towards the winter ſeaſon.

The Brown-headed Gulls are found, we underſtand, in plenty along the banks of the Thames and Medway towards the ſea; we have ourſelves ſeen them among the flocks of gulls that haunt the ſhallow waters off the north of the iſle of Sheppy, in Kent; and we think alſo about the iſle of Grain, in the ſame vicinity. That which we have repreſented is a Leverian ſpecimen; and it may not be improper to mention this, as the different ſuppoſed varieties of Larus Ridibundus ſeem yet involved in ſome obſcurity; at leaſt there is a conſiderable diverſity of opinion among writers reſpecting them.

PLATE CLXXVII.

TRINGA NIGRICANS.

PURPLE SANDPIPER.

GRALLÆ.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill roundiſh, as long as the head: noſtrils ſmall and linear: tongue ſlender: feet four-toed: the hind-toe of one joint raiſed from the ground.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER

AND

SYNONYMS.

Cinereous brown: back black with ſubviolaceous gloſs: chin and middle of the abdomen white.

TRINGA NIGRICANS: cinereo-fuſco, dorſo nigro ſubviolaceo-nitens, mento abdomineque albo.

TRINGA NIGRICANS: Blackiſh aſh: chin and middle of the belly white: baſe of the bill and legs red. *Linn. Tranſ. IV.* 40.

The

PLATE CLXXVII.

The deſcription of the Purple Sandpiper, inſerted in the fourth volume of the Tranſactions of the Linnæan Society, was taken from a ſpecimen killed at Langharne, on the coaſt of Caermarthenſhire, in company with the Purre: it was killed in the month of January, and two others of the ſame kind having been ſhot there the ſame winter, it obtained the trivial name of the Welſh Sandpiper, and from its colour, the ſpecific name of nigricans.

A figure of the ſame bird had previouſly appeared in the work of Walcot, *Syn.* 11. *t.* 155, under the name of the Purple Sandpiper; and as the bird has been ſince found on the coaſts of Kent and Suſſex, the appellation of Purple Sandpiper ſeems more appropriate than the very local name of Welſh Sandpiper.

Nor is the merit of its original introduction into the Britiſh Fauna even due to Walcot, ſince the bird muſt have been known as one of the rareſt of our Sandpipers prior to the time in which his Synopſis was compoſed, for long before that period there was a ſpecimen of it in the late Leverian Muſeum, and which, if we miſtake not, was the firſt example of this intereſting ſpecies introduced to public notice.

Having mentioned this, it is equally due, in juſtice, to thoſe by whom the ſpecies was deſcribed to ſtate, that whilſt it remained among the Leverian birds it bore the name of the "Knot," and it is not impoſſible, under that deſignation, it might have eſcaped remark, or been conſidered as a variety of the common Knot. That the ſpecies had a place in the Leverian Muſeum can admit of no diſtruſt, for we are in poſſeſſion of the original bird with the label annexed.

In ſubmitting the preceding obſervations to our readers we are only

only anxious to award the credit of the diſcovery of this elegant Britiſh Sandpiper to its true ſource: we believe it was Mr. Bolton who diſcovered it; it was aſſuredly Sir Aſhton Lever who afforded it publicity. This ſlight digreſſion, we truſt, will be the more readily excuſed, when it is further added, that the Purple Sandpiper paſſes uſually among collectors, even at this period, as an addition to the Britiſh Tringæ of recent date. Our remarks, however, teſtify the contrary, and very obviouſly demonſtrate that the Purple Sandpiper of the Leverian Muſeum, has ſuffered the fate of many other of its valuable articles, in having been for years before the public, and yet appearing to have been as little known, or at leaſt as little noticed as if it never had been placed there.

Beſides the Leverian ſpecimen above recorded, we have another example of the Purple Sandpiper, captured on the Kentiſh coaſt within the laſt four or five years, and which merely differs from that ſpecimen, in being ſomewhat ſmaller or leſs robuſt, and in having the general tint of the plumage more inclining to duſky. The length of the former is nine inches; of the latter, eight inches and three quarters.

Like the reſt of the birds that haunt the ſea ſhores, the Purple Sandpiper feeds on the ſmall marine worms, and inſects found on the beach as the tide recedes from the ſhore.

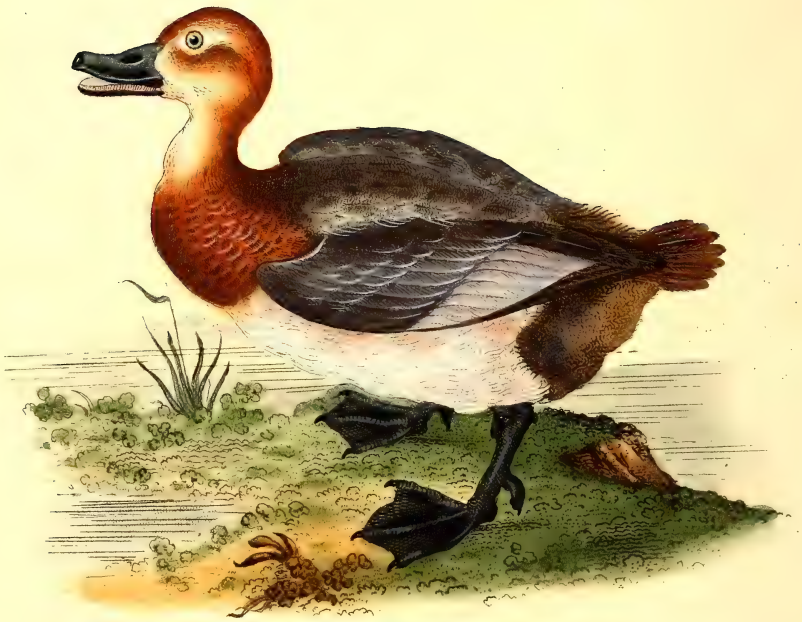

PLATE CLXXVIII.

ANAS FERINA.

GREATER RED-HEADED WIGEON.

POKER, OR POCHARD, *fem.*

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill convex, obtuſe, the edges divided into lamellate teeth: tongue fringed, obtuſe: three fore-toes connected, the hind one ſolitary.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER

AND

SYNONYMS.

Cinereous waved: head brown: pectoral band, vent, and rump black: wings cinereous.

FEMALE more duſky: head pale reddiſh brown: pectoral band obſcure cinereous and brown: wing coverts cinereous.

ANAS FERINA: cinereo-undulata, capite brunneo, faſcia pectorali criſſo uropygicoque nigris. *Linn. Fn. Suec.* 127. —*Brünn. Orn. n.* 80.—*Gmel.* 530. 81.

Anas erythrocephala. *S. G. Gmelin it. I. p.* 70

Anas fera fuſca. *Raii. Syn. p.* 143. *A.* 10.

Penelope. *Briſ.* 6. *p.* 384. 19. *t.* 35. *f.* 1.

PLATE CLXXVIII.

Millouin. *Buff.* ix. *p.* 216. *Pl. Enl.* 803.
Rothhals. *Bloch. Beſ. der Berl. Nat.* 4. *p.* 603. *t.* 17. *f.* 5, 6.
Poker, Pochard, Red-headed Wigeon. *Br. Zool.* 11. N° 284. *Will. (Angl.) p.* 367. *t.* 72.

Theſe birds are common in the fens during the winter ſeaſon, and are often caught in great plenty, and ſent for ſale, with other wild fowl, to the London markets, where it is known by the name of the Dunbird. This is the ſize of the common Wigeon, but is held in rather more eſteem for the table. The ſpecies is of the migratory kind, and is found to inhabit Aſia and America, as well as Europe.

With us it appears to be only an occaſional viſitor during the winter ſeaſon. Its ordinary food conſiſts of the teſtaceous tribes of animals, and various fiſhes of the ſmaller kind, which inhabit fenny ſituations. The flight of theſe birds is diſtinguiſhed by its ſwiftneſs.

The length of the male bird is about nineteen inches, that of the female is ſomewhat leſs, and the general tints of the plumage more obſcurely cinereous and duſky than in the male bird.

PLATE

PLATE CLXXIX.

ARDEA CICONIA.

WHITE STORK.

GRALLÆ.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill ſtraight, pointed, long, ſomewhat compreſſed, with a furrow from the noſtrils towards the tip: noſtrils linear: tongue ſharp: feet four-toed, and cleft: toes connected at the baſe.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER

AND

SYNONYMS.

White: orbits and quill-feathers black: bill, legs, and ſkin, red.

ARDEA CICONIA: alba, orbitis remigibuſque nigris, roſtro, pedibus cuteque ſanguineis. *Linn. Fn. Suec.* 162.—*Scop. ann.* 1. *n.* 123.—*Brünn. orn. n.* 154.—*Gmel.* 622. *n.* 7.—*Lath. Gen. Syn.* 3. 1. *p.* 47. *n.* 9.

CICONIA *Bell. av.* 45. *a.*—*Aldr. orn.* 3. *p.* 291.—*Jonſt. av.* 147. *t.* 50.

CICONIA ALBA: *Brif. av.* 5, *p.* 365. *t.* 32.

CICOGNE

PLATE CLXXIX.

CICOGNE BLANCHE. *Buff. Hiſt. Oiſ.* 7. *p.* 258. *n.* 12.—*Pl. enl. n.* 866.

WHITE STORK. *Will. (Angl.) p.* 286. *t.* 52.
Albin. 2. *t.* 64.
Lath. Syn. 5. *p.* 47.—*Suppl. p.* 234.

The Stork is a general inhabitant of various parts of Europe, Aſia, and Africa, preferring however the more mild and temperate regions, and migrating regularly in flocks under the guidance of a leader, at certain ſeaſons, from one country to another, in order to avoid the extreme of heat and cold. For this reaſon, the Stork is never met with between the tropics, and is rarely known to penetrate northward beyond the country of the Swedes, or the ſouthern parts of Ruſſia. In Holland, it is met with only during the ſummer, arriving in the ſpring, and departing about Michaelmas. In England the Stork is very rare.

Like the reſt of the Grallæ race, the Stork feeds on fiſhes, frogs, and other reptiles, and being a large and powerful bird is eminently ſerviceable in thoſe countries infeſted with ſerpents, and other noxious creatures, which it attacks and deſtroys with impunity. All writers concur in aſſuring us, that in many of the eaſtern countries, the Stork is held in great reſpect: in Egypt, the fens of which they viſit in autumn, they are highly venerated; and in Turkey they are never moleſted, but allowed to build upon the tops of their houſes, and even ſometimes on places of religious worſhip. In Perſia alſo, they are treated with equal lenity; and no European traveller need be informed, that in certain parts of Spain, of France, and Holland, they experience every poſſible indulgence, and are allowed to build their neſts upon

upon the tops of the houſes in return for the benefits they beſtow on the inhabitants, in deſtroying the reptiles that harbour about their habitations.

The fleſh of the Stork is reputed inſipid, a circumſtance that may have contributed among other cauſes towards the preſervation of this uſeful race of birds; for it cannot be denied, that where the gratification of the appetite is in view, we are too apt to diſregard every other uſeful property in the lower race of animals. The Stork, however, paſſes unmoleſted, as there is no temptation to deſtroy the bird for the value of its fleſh as an article of food.

The neſt is compoſed of ſticks, in which the female lays from two to four eggs, that correſpond in ſize with thoſe of the gooſe, but are rather more elongated, and the colour a ſordid yellowiſh white. The young, which are hatched in the ſpace of a month, are at firſt brown, and are watched by the male and female alternately with the greateſt aſſiduity.

Though very rare in Britain, the Stork obtained a place in the Britiſh Fauna at an early period; a ſpecimen ſhot in Norfolk being recorded by Willughby. Albin is leſs explicit than might be wiſhed; but he ſeems to intimate, that although this bird was rare in England, it had occurred occaſionally. "They are ſeldom," obſerves this writer, "found in England in the ſummer time, without being driven over by a ſtorm, or brought over by ſome curious perſon. I ſaw two of theſe birds at his Grace the Duke of Chandos, at Edger, in Middleſex." *Alb. vol.* 2. *p.* 59*.

* The author of the General Synopſis remarks, "that two inſtances only are on record (of its being met with in England), Willughby mentions one being ſhot at Norfolk,

The

PLATE CLXXIX.

The Stork has been known of late years to viſit the ſouthern coaſts of Britain. One, Dr. Latham was informed by Mr. Boys, had been picked up dead, but freſh, on the ſhore of Sandwich Bay; another, as ſtated by Mr. Macreth, was ſhot in the winter of 1785, at Southfleet, in Kent; and Mr. Montagu mentions another ſhot in Hampſhire, in the autumn of 1808, by the game-keeper of Major Guiton.

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and Albin a ſecond in Middleſex." This latter obſervation we are afraid has ariſen from overſight (a circumſtance by no means uſual in the writings of Dr. Latham), for the words of Albin, as above tranſcribed, and to which by the ſynonyms we are referred, can never be ſuppoſed to imply, that the Stork had been ſhot in Middleſex, but only that he ſaw Storks at the Duke of Chandos, in Middleſex; and which, from the general tendency of the text, we ſhould apprehend, had been introduced as curioſities by the Duke from Holland.

PLATE CLXXX.

ANAS FERINA.

GREATER RED-HEADED WIGEON.

POKER, OR POCHARD, *male.*

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill convex, obtuſe, the edges divided into lamellate teeth: tongue fringed, obtuſe: the three fore-toes connected, the hind-one ſolitary.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER

AND

SYNONYMS.

Cinereous, waved: head brown: pectoral band vent and rump black: wings cinereous.

ANAS FERINA: cinereo undulata, capite brunneo, faſcia pectoral criſſo uropygioque nigris. *Linn. Fn. Suec.* 127.

POCHARD, or GREAT RED-HEADED WIGEON. Anas fera fuſca. *Albin. V.* 2. 87.—*pl.* 98.

POCHARD. *Lath. Gen. Syn. V.* 6. *p.* 523. 68.

The plumage of the male of the Greater Red-headed Wigeon is diſtinguiſhed by being of a brighter hue, and in having the charac-

teriſtic colours defined with more diſtinctneſs than in the female: there is otherwiſe a general reſemblance as conſpicuous at leaſt as uſually prevails between the two ſexes of the Duck tribe; and in point of ſize, the female is very little inferior to the male bird.

As the two ſexes aſſociate and are found in the ſame places, their habits and manners may be preſumed the ſame: they are not ſuppoſed to breed in Britain, but to viſit us in autumn, and retire again in the ſpring: they uſually appear in flocks of thirty or forty together, and are obſerved to fly with greater velocity; but not like ſome of the Wild Fowl tribe, in a regularly marſhalled manner, under the direction of a leader; they fly rather indiſcriminately. During part of the year they inhabit North America.

PLATE CLXXXI.

SCOLOPAX GALLINAGO.

COMMON SNIPE.

GRALLÆ.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill roundiſh, obtuſe, longer than the head: noſtrils linear: face covered: feet four-toed, hind toe conſiſting of many joints.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER

AND

SYNONYMS.

Bill ſtraight, tuberculated: legs fuſcous: front with four brown lines.

SCOLOPAX GALLINAGO: roſtro recto tuberculato, pedibus fuſcis, frontis lineis fuſcis quaternis. *Linn. Fn. Suec.* 173.—*Gmel. Linn. Syſt.* 662. 7.

Gallinago. *Briſs. Orn.* 5. *p.* 298. *n.* 2. *t.* 26. *f.* 1.

Gallinago Minor. *Bell. av.* 54.

Ald. Orn. 3. *p.* 484. 476. *t.* 477.

Bécaſſine. *Buff. Oiſ.* 7. *p.* 483. *t.* 26.

Schnepf. *Friſch. av. t.* 229.

PLATE CLXXXI.

Snipe, or Snite. *Raj. av. p.* 105. *n.* 2.
Will. Orn. p. 290, *t.* 3.
Albin. av. I. t. 71.

Common Snipe, *Brit. Zool.* 2. *p.* 187. *t.* 68.
Arct. Zool. p. 463. *n.* 366.
Lath. Syn. 111. *I. p.* 134. *n.* 6.

The common Snipe is abundantly diffuſed throughout every part of the known globe. In England, the ſpecies is common in the fens and ſwampy places, during the winter; but after the early part of ſpring they diſappear; ſome, it is believed, migrating, and others retiring to the higher or more mountainous ſituations, where it is found during the whole ſummer ſeaſon. It is ſtated, on the authority of Dr. Heyſham, that the Snipe, as well as the Jack Snipe, are found throughout the year in the hilly parts of Cumberland; and, according to Barrington, they never quit the fens of Lincolnſhire, Wolmar Foreſt, and Bodmin Downs. Its food conſiſts of worms, inſects, and ſmall ſnails.

The neſt of the common Snipe is frequently found in the fens and marſhes: it is compoſed of dried plants, intermixed with a few feathers; and the eggs, which are from four to five in number, are of an oblong form, and ſordid olive colour, marked with duſky ſpots.

The length of this bird is about twelve inches; its weight four ounces.

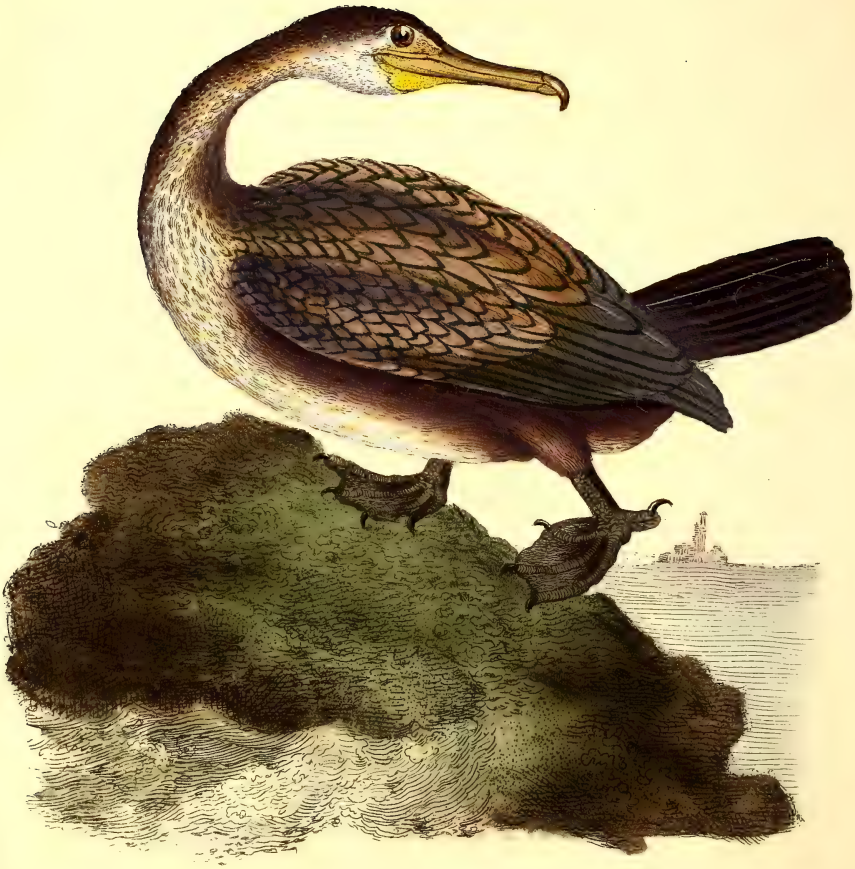

PLATE CLXXXII.

PELECANUS GRACULUS.

SHAG.

ANSERES.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill ſtraight, hooked at the point, and furniſhed with a nail: noſtrils an obliterated ſlit: face rather naked: legs equally balancing the body: all the four toes palmated.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER

AND

SYNONYMS.

Tail rounded: body black, beneath fuſcous: tail feathers twelve.

PELECANUS GRACULUS: cauda rotundata, corpore nigro ſubtus fuſco, rectricibus duodecim. *Lynn. Fn. Sv.* 146. *Brünn. n.* 121.—*Gmel.* 574. 4.

PHALACROCORAX minor. *Briſſ. av.* 6. *p.* 516. *n.* 2.

Corvus Aquaticus. *Albin. av.* 2. *p.* 74. *t.* 81.

Petit Cormoran, ou Nigaud. *Buff. Hiſt. Oiſ. p.* 319.

Shagge, or Crane. *Raj. av. p.* 123. *A.* 4.
Will. Orn. p. 330. *t.* 63.

Shag,

PLATE CLXXXII.

Shag. *Arct. Zool.* 2. *p.* 581. *n.* 508.
Lath. Gen. Syn. III. 2. *p.* 598. *n.* 14.

The Shag is an inhabitant of the northern parts of Europe: it occurs on the ſea coaſts of the Britiſh iſles, and alſo thoſe of Holland, Sweden, Norway, and Iceland. There is one variety of it found in Cayenne and the Caribbee iſlands, and another at the Cape of Good Hope: but the variety found in Britain is that peculiar to the northern regions.

This bird is ſmaller than the Corvorant, being only thirty inches in length: like that bird, its haunts are the rocky parts of our ſea coaſts, where it breeds in the cliffs, and alſo like the Corvorant in trees. Ray informs us, the eggs are long and white. When on land, the Shag is reputed a very ſtupid bird; but in the water, it is remarkably active, and is not ſhot in that element without great difficulty, as it ſwims with only the head and neck above water, and dives with uncommon celerity the inſtant it perceives the flaſh of the fowling piece.

The general tints of the plumage of this bird are duſky, gloſſed with aſhen green or olive, and the darker parts with a vivid blue, appearing altogether reſplendent, as the light falls upon it in various directions.

PLATE CLXXXIII.

PAVO CRISTATUS β.

PIED PEAHEN.

GALLINÆ.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill convex, robuſt: head covered with revolute feathers: noſtrils large: feathers of the rump, long, broad, expanſile, and covered with ocellar ſpots.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER

AND

SYNONYMS.

Head with a compreſſed creſt: ſpurs ſolitary.

PAVO CRISTATUS: capite criſta compreſſa, calcaribus ſolitariis β. *Gmel. Linn. Syſt. Nat.* 729. 1.

PAVO VARIUS. *Briſſ. Orn. I. p.* 288. *A.*

Bunter Pfau. *Frich. av. t.* 119.

Paon Panaché. *Buff. Hiſt. Oiſ.* 2. *p.* 327.

The repreſentation of the male bird of this Pied variety of the Peacock in the Fifth Volume of the preſent Work, appears to have afforded

afforded ſo much ſatisfaction to many of our readers, that we are prevailed upon to add in this place a figure of the Hen and Young.

The female of this bird, we muſt acknowledge, yields in point of gracefulneſs and commanding gaiety of the plumage to the male; and ſtill more conſpicuouſly in the deficiency of that fine flowing train of feathers, which conſtitute the tail coverts: but it yet poſſeſſes a very pleaſing air, and its introduction in the preſent Work will aſſiſt to complete the hiſtory of that much admired variety of the Creſted Peacock.

The Pied Peacock, an intermediate breed or mixture between the common and the white Peacock, is not inferior in point of ſize to the common kind, and as in that bird the female is rather ſmaller; the creſt is alſo ſhorter, and the legs rarely armed with ſpurs.

PLATE CLXXXIV.

TRINGA MACULARIA.

SPOTTED SANDPIPER.

GRALLÆ.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill roundiſh, as long as the head: noſtrils ſmall, linear: tongue ſlender: feet four-toed; the hind-toe of one joint, and raiſed from the ground.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER

AND

SYNONYMS.

Bill at the baſe and the legs fleſh coloured: every part of the body ſpotted; eye-brows and double band on the wings white.

TRINGA MACULARIA: roſtro baſi pedibuſque incarnatis, corpore undique maculato, ſuperciliis faſciaque gemina alarum albis. *Gmel. Syſt. Nat.* 672. 7.

TRINGA MACULARIA: *Linn. Syſt. I. p.* 249. 7.

TURDUS AQUATICUS: *Briſs. av. 5. p.* 255. *n.* 20.

Grive d'Eau. *Buff. Hiſt. Nat. des Oiſ.* 8. *p.* 180.

PLATE CLXXXIV.

SPOTTED SANDPIPER. *Brit. Zool.* 2. *n.* 196.
Lath. Gen. Syn. 5. *p.* 179. 24.
—*Ind. Orn.* 734. 29.

We eſteem this one of the rareſt of the Britiſh Sandpipers: the length of our bird is eight inches and a half.

The ſpecies is deſcribed as a native of America as well as Europe; and the female is ſaid to be diſtinguiſhed by having the under parts of the plumage immaculate.

PLATE

PLATE CLXXXV.

TURDUS VISCIVORUS.

MISSEL THRUSH.

PASSERES.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill ſtraightiſh: the upper mandible a little bending and notched near the point: noſtrils naked or half covered with a ſmall membrane: mouth ciliated with a few briſtles at the corners: tongue jagged.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER

AND

SYNONYMS.

Back brown; neck ſpotted with white; bill yellowiſh.

TURDUS VISCIVORUS: dorſo fuſco, collo maculis albis, roſtro flaveſcentibus. *Scop. Ann. I. p.* 132. *n.* 198.
Brünn. Orn. p. 65. *n.* 231.
Kram. el. p. 361. *n.* 6.
Gmel. Linn. Syſt. 806. 1.

Turdus Viſcivorus. *Geſn. av.* 759. *t.* 760.

Turdus Viſcivorus major. *Ray. av. p.* 64. *n.* 1.

Turdus Major. *Briſs. av.* 1. *p.* 200. *n.* 1.

PLATE CLXXXV.

Tordo. *Olin. ucc. t.* 25.

Draine. *Buff. Hiſt. Oiſ.* 3. *p.* 295. *t.* 19. *f.* 1. *Pl. Enl. n.* 489.

Miſſel Bird, or Shrite. *Will. Orn. p.* 187.

Albin. av. 1. *t.* 33.

Miſſel Thruſh. *Brit. Zool.* 1. *n.* 105.

Arct. Zool. 2. *p.* 341. *B.*

Lath. Gen Syn. 11. 1. *p.* 16. *n.* 1.

The Miſſel Thruſh is the largeſt of the Turdus tribe; the length eleven inches. The plumage of the female is inferior to that of the male in brightneſs.

This bird inhabits the temperate parts of Europe, where it lives in woods, and feeds on berries of various buſhes, ſuch as the holly, ivy, and hawthorn, and, as the name implies, on thoſe of the miſſel-toe; and beſides theſe, it ſubſiſts on caterpillars and inſects.

The neſt, which is uſually placed in a low tree or buſh, is compoſed of moſs, lichens and leaves; the lining of withered graſs. The eggs, four or five in number, of a dirty fleſh colour, marked with reddiſh ſpots. The note of this bird, though pleaſing, is not equal to that of the Thruſh. The fleſh is held in ſome eſteem for the table.

PLATE CLXXXVI.

SCOLOPAX GALLINULA.

JACK SNIPE.

GRALLÆ.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill roundiſh, obtuſe, longer than the head: noſtrils linear: face covered: feet four-toed: hind-toe conſiſting of many joints.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER

AND

SYNONYMS.

Bill ſtraight, tuberculated: legs greeniſh: lores brown: rump varied with violet.

SCOLOPAX GALLINULA: roſtro recto tuberculato, pedibus virescentibus, loris fuſcis, uropygio violaceo-vario.
Scop. Ann. I. n. 139.
—*Gmel. Syſt. Nat.* 662. 8.

Gallinago minor. *Briſſ. av. 5. p.* 303. *n.* 3. *t.* 26. *f.* 2.

Gallinago minima. *Bell. av.* 217.

Cinclus quartus. *Aldr. Orn.* 3. *p.* 493.

Petite

PLATE CLXXXVI.

Petite bécaſſine. *Buff. Hiſt. Nat. Oiſ.* 7. *p.* 490.—*Pl. enl. n.* 884.
Halbſchnepfe. *Friſch. av. t.* 231.
Jacksnipe, Gid, Judcock. *Will. (Angl.) p.* 291.—*Albin.* 111. *t.* 86.—*Brit. Zool.* 11. 189. *t.* 68.
Lath. Gen. Syn. 5. *p.* 136. 8.

The Jackſnipe has the ſame habits and manners of life as the common Snipe, but appears to be leſs abundantly diſperſed over the globe than that bird. Dr. Latham remarks that he cannot trace it more South than Aleppo (where, according to Dr. Ruſſel, it is not uncommon), and to the North as far as lat. 80. 27.

This is only half the ſize of the common Snipe, weighing no more than two ounces; its length eight inches and a half.

PLATE CLXXXVII*.

PHALOROPUS LOBATUS.

LOBATE, or GREY PHALAROPE.

GRALLÆ.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill roundiſh, ſtraight, and uſually ſomewhat inflected at the top: noſtrils minute: feet lobate, or furniſhed with lateral membranes, generally ſcalloped.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER

AND

SYNONYMS.

Bill ſubulate, the tip inflected: legs pinnate: breaſt undulated white.

PHALAROPUS LOBATUS. *Lath. Ind. Orn.* 776. 2.

TRINGA LOBATA: roſtro ſubulato: apice inflexo, pedibus pinnatis: pectore albo undulato. *Linn. Fn. Suec.* 179.—*Brünn. Orn. n.* 171.

—*Fab. Fn. Groenl. n.* 75.

PHALAROPUS. *Briſſ. av.* 5. *p.* 18. *n.* 1.

Phalarope a feſtons dentelés. *Buff. Oiſ. p.* 226.

Grey

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* ERRATUM.

Through an error in numbering the Plate of the Grey Phalarope, which belongs to this place in the preſent Volume (Plate CLXXXVII.) it has been improperly introduced into the former, or Seventh Volume.

This

PLATE CLXXXVII.

Grey Coot-footed Tringa. *Edw. glean. t.* 308.—*Act. Angl.* 50. *t.* 6.
Grey Phalarope. *Brit. Zool. n.* 218. *t.* 76.
Lath. Syn. 3. 1. *p.* 272. *n.* 2.

This elegant ſpecies is very rare in England. Its ſize is that of the common Purre: the bill black: the legs cinereous.

It is found ſparingly in Europe, Aſia, and America.

This miſtake was not diſcovered till a conſiderable number of the Seventh Volume had been bound up and ſold, and at a time therefore when any alteration in placing the Plates would only have created perplexity.

The true Plate CLVII. is included in the preſent Volume, inſcribed with its proper number.

The Plate numbered CLVII., in the former Volume, ſhould be CLXXXVII.

By altering the erroneous number CLVII. laſt mentioned, into CLXXXVII., and then referring the two Plates to their proper ſituations in Vol. VII. and VIII. as indicated by their ſeveral numbers, the overſight will be corrected.

When the two Plates are thus tranſpoſed the letter-preſs will be found to correſpond reſpectively with the Plates referred to them; for it is nothing more than the miſnumbering of one Plate in Vol. VII. that has occaſioned confuſion.

PLATE CLXXXVIII.

TURDUS ILIACUS.

RED WING.

PASSERES.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill ſtraightiſh; the upper mandible a little bending, and notched near the point: noſtrils naked, or half covered with a ſmall membrane: mouth ciliated with a few briſtles at the corners: tongue jagged.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER

AND

SYNONYMS.

Wings beneath ferruginous: eye-brows whitiſh.

TURDUS ILIACUS: alis ſubtus ferrugineis, ſuperciliis albicantibus. *Linn. Fn. Suec.* 218. *Scop. ann.* 1. *n.* 196.—*Kram. el. p.* 361. *n.* 9.—*Gmel. Syſt. Nat.* 808. 3.

Turdus Ilias. *Geſn. av.* 760. *t.* 761.
Aldr. orn. 2. *p.* 597.

Turdus Iliacus. *Nozem. nederl. Vogel. t.* 12.
Klein. av. 66.
Briſ. av. 2. *p.* 208. *n.* 3. *t.* 20. *f.* 1.

Mauvis. *Buff. Hiſt. Nat. Oiſ.* 3. *p.* 309.—*Pl. enl. n.* 51.

PLATE CLXXXVIII.

Klera Kladra, Tall-Traſt. *Fn. Suec. ſp.* 218.
Weindroffel. *Friſch. av. t.* 28.
Redwing, Swinepipe, or Wind-Thruſh. *Will. Orn.* 189.
Ray. av. 64. *n.* 4.
Albin. av. 1. *t.* 35.
Lath. Gen. Syn. 2. 1. *p.* 22. *n.* 7.

The Redwing is rather ſmaller than the Fieldfare, to which, in general appearance, as well as in its manners of life, it bears conſiderable reſemblance.

The uſual length of the Redwing is about nine inches, that of the Fieldfare ten inches. They appear in flocks ſo nearly about the ſame time, that they may be conſidered as accompanying each other in their periodical migrations; the flocks of the Redwing arriving uſually at the place of deſtination a few days only before the Fieldfare; and it is alſo known that in the northern parts of Europe, where theſe birds breed, both kinds occur together.

One of the moſt remarkable characters of the Redwing, and by which, independently of other peculiarities, it may be diſtinguiſhed from the Fieldfare, is the colour of the inner ſurface of the wing, that part of the Fieldfare being wholly white, while in the Redwing it is marked with a rufous orange ſpot. The name of Redwing, given to this bird by Ray and other early writers, appears hence to be happily choſen, as it at once implies the diſtinction that prevails between this bird and its very analogous ſpecies.

Linnæus informs us in the *Fauna Suecica*, that in Sweden this ſpecies

ſpecies builds its neſt in ſome low ſhrub or hedge; and that the female lays ſix eggs, which are of a blue-green colour, and ſpotted with black *: it is obſerved alſo, that the Redwing perches on high trees in the maple foreſts in Sweden, and has a fine note in ſpring.

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* We believe it may be aſſerted with entire confidence, that the collection of the eggs of Britiſh Birds in our poſſeſſion, is beyond compariſon, the moſt perfect that ever has been brought together; and as the introduction of the eggs are confeſſedly requiſite to complete the Natural Hiſtory of our birds, the reader will be induced, we truſt, to approve our intention of introducing the figures of theſe in the moſt compendious form the intereſt of the ſubject will admit, in a diſtinctly ſeparate Supplement to the preſent Work. A genuine work on this intereſting ſubject is unqueſtionably much wanted.

PLATE CLXXXIX.

TRINGA PUGNAX, *fem.*

REEVE, OR FEMALE RUFF.

GRALLÆ.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill roundiſh, as long as the head: noſtrils ſmall, linear: tongue ſlender: feet four-toed; the hind toe of one joint, and raiſed from the ground.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER

AND

SYNONYMS.

Bill and legs red: three lateral tail feathers without ſpots: face with fleſh-coloured granulations.

Fem. Pale brown; back ſpotted with black: tail brown, the middle feathers ſpotted with black: breaſt and belly pale.

TRINGA PUGNAX. *Linn. Syſt.* 1. *p.* 247. 1.—*Fn. Sv.* N° 175.—*Gmel. Syſt.* 1. *p.* 669.—*Lath. Ind. Orn.* 725. 1.

Avis Pugnax. *Aldr. Orn.* 3. *p.* 523. *t.* 526.

Combattant, ou Paon de Mer. *Buff.* 7. *p.* 521. *t.* 29, 30.—*Pl. Enl.* 305. 306.

Pavoncella,

PLATE CLXXXIX.

Pavoncella. *Cet. uc. Sard. p.* 253.

Ruff and Reeve. *Will. (Angl.) p.* 302. *t.* 56.
Albin. 1. *t.* 72. 73.
Lath. Syn. 5. *p.* 159. 1.

In an early part of the preſent work we preſented our readers with a figure of the Male or Ruff*; the ſubject now choſen is a variety of the Female or Reeve. The length of the male is about twelve inches, that of the female is rather leſs.

It is remarked of this ſpecies that the ruff or male birds are ſo variable in colour, that it is ſcarcely poſſible to find two birds that perfectly correſpond in this particular. The Reeves are alſo variable in a leſs conſiderable degree.

The males when in full plumage are diſtinguiſhed by the remarkable tufts of feathers which form a kind of collar or ruff round the neck, from whence it derives the name; but in the moulting ſeaſon this ruff falls off, and the apppearance of the male at that time ſo nearly reſembles the female that they cannot eaſily be diſtinguiſhed.

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* Plate XIX. Vol. I.

PLATE

PLATE CXC.

ANAS PENELOPE.

WIGEON.

ANSERES.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill convex, obtuſe, the edges divided into lamellate teeth: tongue fringed and obtuſe: three fore-toes connected, the hind one ſolitary.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER

AND

SYNONYMS.

Tail rather pointed: vent black: head brown: front white: back cinereous waved.

ANAS PENELOPE: cauda acutiuſcula, criſſo nigro, capite brunneo, fronte alba, dorſo cinereo undulato. *Linn. Fn. Suec.* 124.—*Brünn. n.* 72.—*Kram. el. p.* 342. *n.* 16.

PENELOPE. *Geſn. av.* 108.
Aldr. orn. 3. *p.* 217. *t.* 219. 220.
Jonſt. av. 39.

Anas ſiſtularis. *Geſn. av.* 121.

Canard

PLATE CXC.

Canard ſiffleur. *Buff. Oiſ.* 9. *p.* 169. *t.* 10. 11.—*Pl. Enl. n.* 825.
Pfeifente. *Bloch. Beſch. der Berl. Naturf.* 4. *p.* 601. *t.* 18. *f.* 5.
Blaſſente. *Friſch. av. t.* 164.
Wigeon, Whewer, or Whim. *Ray. Orn. p.* 146. *A.* 3.
Will. Orn. p. 375. *t.* 12.
Albin. av. 2. *t.* 99.
Lath. Gen. Syn. 3. 2. *p.* 518. *n.* 63.

This ſpecies of wild fowl occurs abundantly in various countries of Europe, Aſia, and Africa, in all which it is reputed of the migratory kind: it migrates as far as Aleppo and Egypt during the winter, and at different ſeaſons appears in various parts of Europe as far to the northward as Sweden: it is believed to breed more to the northward than the Britiſh iſles.

During the winter months the Wigeon is taken in plenty in our marſhes, with others of the Duck tribe, by means of the nets and decoys, and as the fleſh is much admired, the London markets are pretty regularly ſupplied with the Wigeon throughout the winter, and early part of the ſpring.

The length of this bird is twenty inches: the female is rather ſmaller, of a brown colour, and undulated: the neck and breaſt paler: ſcapulars dark brown, and the wings and belly as in the male bird. The young males are obſerved to reſemble the female till the following ſpring after being hatched, when they acquire the full plumage, which however they retain only till the end of the ſummer, when they again reſemble the female till the enſuing moulting.

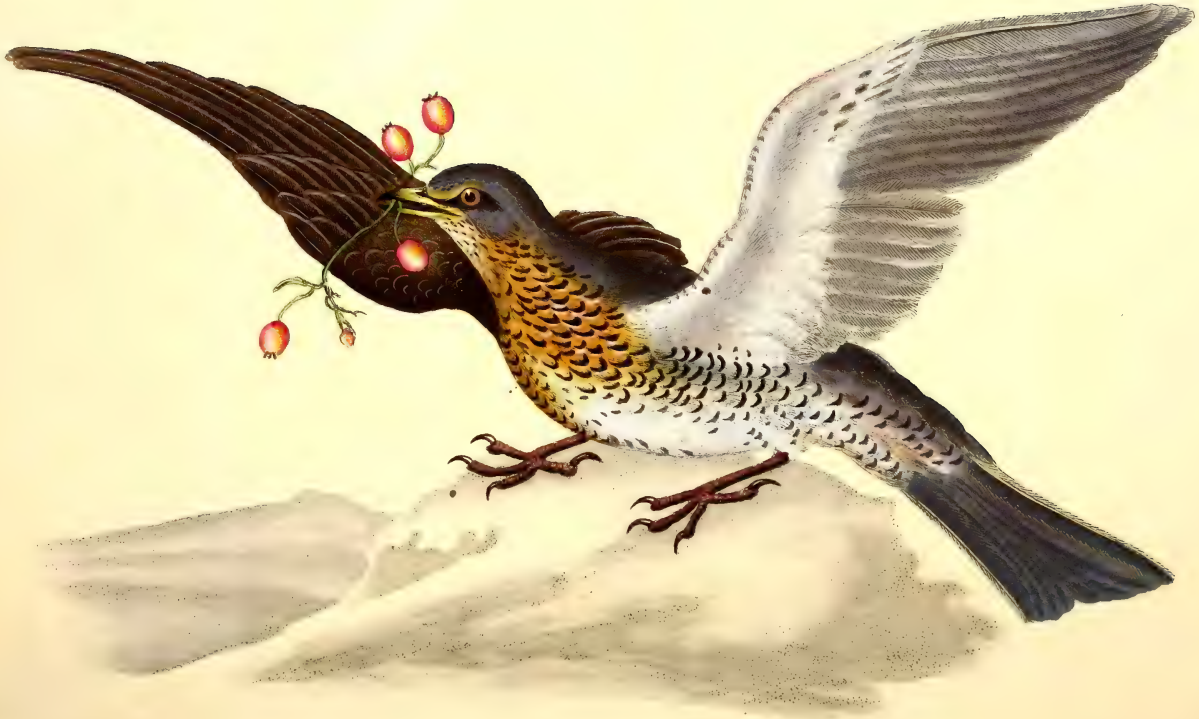

PLATE CXCI.

TURDUS PILARIS.

FIELDFARE.

PASSERES.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill ſtraightiſh; the upper mandible a little bending, and notched near the point: noſtrils naked, or half covered with a ſmall membrane: mouth ciliated with a few briſtles at the corners: tongue jagged.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER

AND

SYNONYMS.

Tail feathers black, the outermoſt at the inner edge tipped with white: head and rump hoary.

TURDUS PILARIS: rectricibus nigris: extimis margine interiore apice albicantibus, capite uropygioque cano. *Linn. Fn. Suec.* 215.—*Scop. Ann.* 1. *p.* 133. *n.* 194.—*Brünn. Orn. p.* 65. *n.* 232.

TURDUS PILARIS. *Geſn. av.* 758.—*Aldr. Orn.* 2. *p.* 595. *t.* 596.

Turdus Pilaris ſive Turdela. *Briſſ. av.* 2. *p.* 214. *n.* 5.

PLATE CXCI.

Litorne ou Tourdelle. *Buff. Hiſt. Nat. des Oiſ.* 3. *p.* 301. *t.* 19. *f.* 2.—*Pl. Enl. n.* 490.

Fieldfare, or Feldefare. *Brit. Zool.* 1. *n.* 106.
Will. Orn. p. 188. *t.* 37.
Albin. av. 1. *t.* 36.
Lath. Syn. 2. 1. *p.* 24. *n.* 11.

Length ten inches; the bill yelloviſh, with the tip black, the legs blackiſh. The male and female much reſemble each other.

The Fieldfare, like the Redwing, is of the migatory kind: retiring to the northern regions, as far as Iceland, during the ſummer or breeding ſeaſon, and returning ſouthward in autumn: it arrives in Britain about the month of October, or later, when the northern winter is more mild than uſual: it alſo viſits France and Italy, but not till about the month of December. In Sweden it is obſerved to build in high trees, and to prefer thoſe ſituations where the juniper grows. It ſubſiſts chiefly on the berries of various plants, among which, thoſe of the hawthorn and the holly appear to be favourite food.

The Fieldfare and the Redwing are frequently taken in the nets during winter: the fleſh, though ſometimes rather bitter, being held in ſome eſteem. The capture of theſe birds (Turdi of the Romans) was an object of attention among the ancients as we learn from their hiſtorians: they were accuſtomed to take theſe birds alive in vaſt numbers at particular ſeaſons of the year, and fatten them in aviaries by thouſands, as an article of delicacy and luxury for the table *.

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* Varro, Plutarch, Martial, &c.

Several

PLATE CXCI.

Several varieties of this bird are defcribed by writers, all which differ from the common kind only in having the plumage varied with white, efpecially about the head and neck: the Pied Fieldfare of Albin, which is of this kind, has the head and neck entirely white.

PLATE CXCII.

ANAS CRECCA. *Fem.*

COMMON TEAL. *Female.*

ANSERES.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill convex and obtuſe, the edges divided into lamellate teeth: tongue fringed and obtuſe: three fore toes connected, the hind one ſolitary.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER

AND

SYNONYMS.

Wing ſpot green: line above and below the eye white, *male.*—Head and neck whitiſh and brown varied; wing ſpot green: vent white.

ANAS CRECCA: ſpeculo alarum viridi, linea alba ſupra infraque oculos. *Linas.*—Caput et collum albida fuſcoque varia; alæ ut in mare: criſſum totum album. *fem. Linn. Syſt.* 1. *p.* 204. 33.—*Lath. Ind. Orn.* 872. 100.

Querquedula ſecunda Aldr. *Raii. Syn. p.* 148. 9.

COMMON TEAL. *fem. Lath. Gen. Syn.* 6. 551. 88.

The

PLATE CXCII.

The Common Teal is a native of Europe and Aſia, inhabiting the north as far as Iceland, and the ſouth to the Caſpian ſea, beyond which it extends on the eaſt as far as China, India, and ſome other adjacent countries.

During the winter ſeaſon there are few ſpecies of wild fowl more abundant in this country than the Common Teal, which is caught in vaſt numbers for the ſupply of the London markets. But it was long before it was clearly aſcertained to breed in this country. It is now known to breed in the north of England, and alſo in Scotland.

In France, where the Common Teal inhabits throughout the year, it frequents watery places, making its neſt, in April, among the ruſhes that grow about the edges of the ponds, and feeds on the ſeeds of the ruſhes, and on the graſs and weeds the ponds afford, as well as on the ſmaller kinds of fiſhes. The neſt is ſaid to be of a large ſize, and ſo placed in the water as to riſe and fall with it: the eggs, which in point of ſize, reſemble thoſe of a pigeon, are of a whitiſh colour, with ſmall hazel ſpots.

The ſubject repreſented in the preſent plate is the female, which differs materially in ſome particulars of the plumage from the male.

Length about fourteen inches.

PLATE CXCIII.

ANAS CRECCA, *Mas.*

COMMON TEAL, *Male.*

ANSERES.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill convex and obtuſe, the edges divided into lamellate teeth: tongue fringed and obtuſe: three fore-toes connected, the hinder one ſolitary.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER

AND

SYNONYMS.

Wing ſpot green: line above and below the eye white.

ANAS CRECCA: ſpeculo alarum viridi, linea alba ſupra infraque oculos. *Linn. Fn. Suec.* 129.—*Linn. Syſt.* 1. *p.* 204. 33.—*Gmel. Syſt. Nat.* 532. 33.—*Lath. Ind. Orn.* 872. 100.

Petite Sarcelle, *Buff.* ix. *p.* 265. *t.* 17. 18.—*Pl. enl.* 947.

COMMON TEAL. *Br. Zool.* 11. N° 290.—*Arct. Zool.* 11. *p.* 577. *P.*—*Lath. Gen. Syn.* 6. *p.* 551. 83.—*Id. Supp. p.* 276.

In

PLATE CXCIII.

In the preceding Plate we have given a figure of the female Teal, the preſent is that of the male bird, which confeſſedly excels the female in point of elegance; there is a general reſemblance, and the ſize is nearly the ſame, but the ſuperior brightneſs of its colours, added to the very beautiful appearance of the head of the male bird, affords a very ſtriking contraſt to the appearance of the female.

There is a ſuppoſed variety of this bird with the legs cinereous inſtead of reddiſh brown.

PLATE CXCIV.

ANAS ACUTA.

PINTAIL. *Fem.*

ANSERES.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill convex and obtuſe, the edges divided into lamellate teeth: tongue fringed and obtuſe: three fore-toes connected, the hind one ſolitary.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER

AND

SYNONYMS.

Tail pointed, long, beneath black: hind-head each ſide with a white line; back waved cinereous.

Female rufous brown and duſky varied: wing-ſpot pale brown, margined above and beneath with a white line: two middle tail feathers not elongated.

ANAS ACUTA: cauda acuminato elongata ſubtus nigra, occipite utrinque linea alba, dorſo cinereo undulato. *Linn. Fn. Suec.* 126.—*Scop. Ann.* 1. *n.* 73.—*Georg. it. p.* 166.—*Lath. Gen. Syn.* 3. 2. *p.* 526. *n.* 72.

PLATE CXCIV.

The male of this very elegant ſpecies of the Anas tribe has appeared already in the preſent work, being included in the ſixth volume, at Plate CXXIX. The female is little inferior in the beauty of her plumage to the male bird, from which, however, on compariſon, it will be found to differ in ſeveral material particulars. The female is rather ſmaller, the head and neck pale brown, and marked with numerous ſhort daſhes of fuſcous; the back and wing coverts dark brown, with a delicate reddiſh buff-coloured margin, and many of the feathers marked acroſs the middle with a curved band of the ſame colour: wings pale fuſcous; wing-ſpot pale brown, bounded above and beneath with a white band or line: the tail cuneate, having the middle feather rather longer and pointed, but not elongated like the two middle tail feathers of the male bird.

PLATE

PLATE CXCV.

HIRUNDO APUS.

SWIFT.

PASSERES.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill ſmall, weak, curved, ſubulate, and depreſſed at the baſe: gape larger than the head: tongue ſhort, broad, and cleft: wings long: tail in general forked: toes all placed forward.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER

AND

SYNONYMS.

Blackiſh, throat white.

HIRUNDO APUS: nigricans, gula alba, digitis omnibus quatuor anticis, *Linn. Fn. Suec.* 272.—*Scop. Ann.* 1. *p.* 166. *n.* 251.—*Brünn. Orn. p.* 74. *n*, 292.—*Lath. Ind. Orn.* 582. 32.

Le Grand Martinet. *Buff. Pl. Enl.* 542. *f.* 1.

Martinet Noir. *Buff. Hiſt. Nat. Oiſ.* 6. *p.* 643.

Rondone *Zinnan. Uov. p.* 47. *t.* 7. *f.* 33.

Cett. Uc. Sard. p. 231.

Mauerſchwalbe. *Friſch. av.* 17.

PLATE CXCV.

SWIFT. *Brit. Zool.* 1. N° 171. *t.* 57.—*Will. (Angl.) p.* 214. *t.* 39.—*Albin.* 2. *p.* 55.
Lath. Gen. Syn. 4. *p.* 584. 34.

The Swift appears to be an inhabitant of almost every part of the known globe, as we learn from the teſtimony of many travellers who have ſeen it in the different countries they have reſpectively viſited: in the Britiſh iſles it remains only for a very ſhort period, ſeldom arriving before the early part of May, and retiring again about the beginning of the month of August.

The ſpecies is about eight inches in length, the colour ſooty black, except the chin, which is white; the female differs from the male only in being rather ſmaller, the plumage browniſh, and the white on the throat more obſcure than in the male bird.

From the diminutive ſize of the feet it walks with much difficulty, and cannot riſe from the ground. It is, therefore, never ſeen in any low ſituation, unleſs it ſhould chance to fall there by accident, but reſts upon the tops and ſides of houſes, church ſteeples, the lofty craggs of hills or other conſiderable elevations, from whence it can conveniently take its flight. In the mornings and evenings it is obſerved on the wing, flying and darting in a ſwift and peculiar manner in ſearch of inſects, its cuſtomary food; and which it eaſily catches in the enormous gape of its mouth, while on the wing. The Swifts fly only in the morning and evening: during the day time, and in the night they lurk in their hiding places to avoid the extremities of either heat or cold.

The Swift is ſaid to have only one brood in a year: the eggs, uſually five in number, are of a lengthened form, and white colour.

PLATE

PLATE CXCVI.

SCOLOPAX ARCUATA.

CURLEW.

GRALLÆ.

GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill roundiſh, obtuſe, longer than the head: noſtrils linear: face covered: feet four-toed, hind-toe conſiſting of many joints.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER

AND

SYNONYMS.

Bill arched, legs blueiſh: wings blackiſh, with ſnowy ſpots.

SCOLOPAX ARCUATA: roſtro arcuato, pedibus cæruleſcentibus, alis nigris maculis niveis. *Linn. Fn. Suec.* 168.—*It. ſcan.* 333.—*Gmel.* 655. 3.

Numenius. *Briſſ. av.* 5. *p.* 311. *n.* 1.
Nozem. nederl. Vogel. t. 57.

Numenius ſ. Arquata. *Geſn. av.* 222.—*Aldr. Orn. l.* 20. *c.* 21.—*Marſ. dan. t.* 17.

NUMENIUS ARQUATA, cineraſcente nigroque varius, pedibus cæruleſcentibus, alis nigris maculis niveis. *Lath. Ind. Orn.* 710. 1.

Le

PLATE CXCVI.

Le Courlis. *Buff.* 8. *p.* 19.—*Pl. Enl.* 818.
Common Curlew. *Br. Zool.* 2. 176. *t.* 63.
Will. (Angl.) p. 294. *t.* 54.
Albin. 1. *t.* 79.
Lath. Syn. 5. *p.* 119. 1.—*Id. Suppl. p.* 242.

The Curlew inhabits the marſhy parts of Europe and Aſia; and a variety of the ſpecies is is alſo found in Africa and America. During the ſummer ſeaſon it migrates in flocks to the Northward, and returns again to the ſouthward as the winter approaches.

Theſe birds never leave Great Britain entirely, for although they migrate in great numbers they are found in plenty at all ſeaſons of the year, both on our ſea coaſts and among the fens in the inland parts of the kingdom. With us they breed in April; the eggs are four in number, and of a pale olive colour, with browniſh ſpots.

The remarkable incurvate ſtructure and diſproportionate length of the bill ſeem to indicate the habits of life theſe birds are deſtined by nature to purſue: thoſe which haunt our ſea coaſts are ſeen running in flocks along the ſhore in queſt of worms and cruſtaceous animals, which they draw out of the ſands and from the crevices of the rocks, by means of their elongated bill, with perfect eaſe; and in like manner they readily obtain the worms, the larva of inſects, and other creatures which inhabit the fens and marſhes to which they retire when they retreat inland from the ſea coaſt. The fleſh of the Curlew is admired generally: thoſe which feed upon the ſea coaſts acquire a certain degree of fiſhy rankneſs in flavour, from the nature of their food, which is

not

not obſerved in thoſe which inhabit the freſh water marſhes. The two ſexes much reſemble each other.

The Curlew varies in ſize: it is uſually from twenty to about twenty-four inches in length, and has a bill of an incurvate form, nearly ſeven inches long; ſometimes they occur much larger. We have the head of one, the bill of which is ten inches long, but the Curlew of this ſize is not common, and it was for this reaſon the head was preſerved by a curious ſportſman as a very ſingular novelty.

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Printed by R. & R. Gilbert, St. John's Square, London.